



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Egan Field Office
HC33 Box 33500 (702 N. Industrial Way)
Ely, Nevada 89301-9408
http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/ely_field_office.html

In Reply Refer To:
3809 (NVL0100)
NVN-91957

MAR 26 2014

Dear Interested Party:

You are receiving this letter because you have expressed interest in the following proposal or you have expressed interest in past Federal actions pertaining to public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Ely District.

Update: Extension of Public Comment Period

The BLM is publishing a second notice for scoping for the Gold Rock Mine Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to extend the period for public input. The initial scoping period opened on September 5, 2013 and closed on October 7, 2013 (Federal Register Vol. 78, No. 172, pages 54674-54675). Scoping meetings were held on September 24, 25, and 26 in 2013 in Ely, Eureka, and Reno, respectively.

The BLM set up an e-mail account to receive scoping comments on the Gold Rock Mine Project EIS during the initial scoping period (September 5, 2013, through October 7, 2013). On November 7, 2013, the BLM learned that the e-mail account set up to receive these scoping comments, along with all of its contents, had been deleted during the recent federal government shutdown and was not recoverable. On January 6, 2014 the BLM and the project proponent, Midway Gold US Inc. (Midway) decided to issue a second Notice of Intent (NOI) to extend the scoping period.

The BLM invites the public to submit comments and requests that anyone who submitted scoping comments by e-mail during the first 30-day scoping period (September 5, 2013 through October 7, 2013) resubmit their comments by mail, by fax, or through the ePlanning system during this 30-day extension of the public input period.

No changes have been made to the proposed action. No scoping meetings will be held during this 30-day extension of the public input period, as these meetings were not affected by the technical difficulties with the email account.

Restatement of Request for Input

The BLM Ely District, Egan Field Office is soliciting written comments regarding Midway's proposal to construct and operate a gold mine. Known as the Gold Rock Project, the proposed mine would be located on mining claims administered by the BLM. The BLM is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate all feasible and reasonable alternatives, and potential impacts of the proposed project.

The proposed project would be located in the southern Newark Valley and northern Railroad Valley, in White Pine County, Nevada, approximately 50 miles west of Ely and 30 miles southeast of Eureka. The proposed project would include an open pit; a heap leach pad and associated ponds, process facility, and refinery; a mill; a carbon-in-leach (CIL) plant; waste rock dumps; a tailings storage facility; water supply wells; haul roads; ancillary facilities; and a 69 kV transmission line. Electrical power would be obtained from Mt. Wheeler Power. For the Gold Rock Project, a 69-kV transmission line would be extended from the Pan Mine approximately 6 miles across the valley to tie into the west side of the Gold Rock Project electric system. A county road that currently passes through the project area would be re-located onto existing BLM and county roads. Construction and operation of the mine would result in approximately 3,749 acres of disturbance that includes the previously authorized exploration disturbance of 267 acres. Upon completion of mining, the operation would be reclaimed. Approximately 250 to 300 people would be employed during facility construction, and approximately 150 to 250 people would be employed during operations.

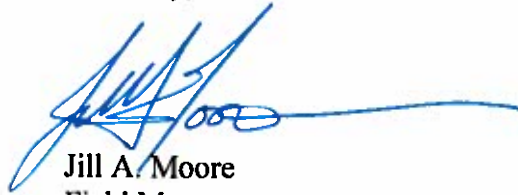
Your comments will help guide development of the EIS, including the identification of relevant issues and possible alternatives. Written comments should be addressed to the BLM Ely District Office, HC 33 Box 33500, Ely, NV 89301, Attn: Dan Netcher. Comments should be postmarked or otherwise delivered to the Ely District Office by 4:30 p.m. on April 28, 2014, to ensure full consideration. Comments may also be faxed to Dan Netcher at (775) 289-1910 or submitted electronically through the BLM's ePlanning website: https://www.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do. Please make your comments as specific as possible.

Additional information is available online at <http://www.blm.gov/nv/>. Click on the Ely District map and then click on the Gold Rock Project under "In the Spotlight." Project materials may also be viewed at the BLM Ely District Office, 702 N. Industrial Way, Ely, NV, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Pacific Time, Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – would be part of the public record for the project, and may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask the BLM in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we would be able to do so.

For more information, contact Dan Netcher, Project Manager, at (775) 289-1872 or dnetcher@blm.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jill A. Moore', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jill A. Moore
Field Manager
Egan Field Office

Enclosures